

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated May 8, 2002, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-16, 30-31, 36-44, 49-59, 65-76, 81-115 and 121-134 under 35 USC §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,208,762 to Charhut et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,463,840 to Bailer. The Examiner also objected to claims 5, 17-29, 32-35, 45-48, 60-64, 77-80 and 116-120 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if re-written in independent form. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's continued indication of allowable subject matter.

Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding rejections.

I. The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is an Improper Omnibus Rejection

With regard to the rejection of claims 1-4, 6-16, 30-31, 36-44, 49-59, 65-76, 81-115 and 121-134, the Examiner states that Charhut teaches several elements, which presumably apply to the **claimed** invention, but in no way explains how several of the elements from Charhut relate to the **claimed** invention. That is, with regard to Charhut, there was absolutely no reference to several elements of the claims of the instant application, and absolutely no reasoning or explanation as to how the alleged teachings of Charhut teach these elements of the **claimed** invention. For example, the Examiner in no way discusses how Charhut teaches or suggests “a plurality of carriers,” “receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles,” “ranks of carriers,” or that a “carrier has an identification tag affixed thereto,” each of which are recited in various claims of the present invention. In addition, newly added claim 136 recites “a carrier with multiple bottles for dispensing pharmaceuticals,” which also is not taught or suggested by Charhut.

In the Office Action, the Examiner admits that Charhut “does not show a consolidation packaging station or literature insert packaging means as claimed,” and alleges, inter alia, that Bailer “teaches the concept of assembling orders wherein a literature insert is assembled for a particular order and placed into a carton.” The Examiner also alleges that “Charhut discloses printing particular labels for each corresponding vial” and “that radio tags are well known in the art,” and concludes from this that “it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to provide Charhut with a shipping container with a corresponding literature package as taught by Bailer to provide for a shipping package with related literature, written information or instructions.”

On this basis, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-16, 30-31, 36-44, 49-59, 65-76, 81-115 and 121-134. Applicants respectfully submit that the form of the rejection was an omnibus rejection contrary to 37 CFR §1.104(c)(2) and MPEP 707.07(d). The Examiner is respectfully requested to clearly explain the pertinence of each reference as it relates to each element in each rejected claim as required by Rule 104 and to “fully and clearly” state the grounds for rejection as required by MPEP Section 707.07(d). Nonetheless, Applicants have reviewed the references and traverse the rejections below with respect to various elements recited in the claims.

II. Charhut in View of Bailer Does Not Teach the Claimed Invention

A. Claims 1-3

Independent claim 1 recites a combination of features directed to an automatic prescription filling and dispensing system. As recited by claim 1, the system comprises, *inter alia*, “pill dispensing machines to automatically count out and dispense pills into prescription bottles in accordance with prescription orders.” The system also comprises “means to print literature packs customized to said prescription orders.” (emphasis added). In addition, the system comprises an “order consolidation means to present a shipping container for each order, to insert the prescription bottle for said order into such shipping container and to insert, separately from any prescription bottle inserted into the shipping container, the literature pack for said order into such shipping container.” This combination of features recited in claim 1, when interpreted as a whole, is submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited above. Without conceding that either reference discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 1, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest, in addition, at least the feature of printing a literature pack customized to a prescription order, or the feature of a literature pack being inserted

separately from a bottle for a prescription order. In fact, neither reference discloses *anything* with regard to a literature pack being associated with a bottle of a prescription order. In this regard, Bailer discloses a generic literature package being inserted into a pocket or holder (see, e.g., col. 4, lines 21-23), and has nothing to do with printing literature packages, let alone printing “literature packs customized to said prescription orders,” as recited in the claimed invention. Other features are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 2-3 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1, but also because of additional features they recite. Claim 2, for example, recites, *inter alia*, additional details pertaining to the literature pack which are not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 1-3 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when each respective claim is interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 1-3 be passed to issue.

B. Claims 4, 6 and 7

Independent claim 4 recites a combination of features directed to a prescription dispensing and packing system. As recited by claim 4, the system comprises, *inter alia*, “a plurality of bottle carriers each having receptacles to receive a plurality of pill bottles.” The system also comprises “means to receive orders for prescriptions,” and “means to load prescription bottles corresponding to the prescriptions of said orders into scheduled locations in said carriers.” In addition, the system comprises “a prescription pill dispensing machine,” and “means to transport said carriers with said prescription bottles through said dispensing machine, said dispensing machine dispensing the pills of said orders into the bottles in said carriers in accordance with the scheduled locations of the pill bottles in said carriers.” The system further comprises “order consolidation means receiving carriers from said dispensing machine and presenting shipping containers to be filled, each shipping container corresponding to an order, said order consolidation means unloading bottles from said carriers and loading bottles into shipping containers corresponding to the orders, said order

consolidation means determining each bottle to go in each shipping container from the scheduled location of such bottle in a carrier.”

This combination of features of independent claim 4, when interpreted as a whole, is submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art. Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited above. Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 4, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest at least the feature of an order consolidation means that unloads bottles from “carriers each having receptacles to receive a plurality of pill bottles.” (emphasis added). Both references also absolutely fail to teach or suggest at least the feature of loading prescription bottles corresponding to orders into scheduled locations in the carriers. In this regard, and contrary to the Examiner’s assertion, the carriers recited in the claimed invention cannot possibly correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut, as alleged by the Examiner. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest, for example, “carriers each having receptacles to receive a plurality of pill bottles” as recited in the claimed invention, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such carriers are disclosed.

In addition, neither Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest a prescription dispensing and packaging system that “loads the bottles into shipping containers **corresponding** to the orders.” (emphasis added).

Further, Bailer does not compensate for Charhut’s lack of disclosure of a consolidation packaging station. Instead, as noted above, Bailer discloses a generic literature package being inserted into a pocket or holder (see, e.g., col. 4, lines 21-23), and has nothing to do with an “order consolidation means” that unloads bottles from carriers and loads the bottles into “shipping containers **corresponding** to the orders,” or loading prescription bottles corresponding to orders into scheduled locations in the carriers, each as recited in the claimed invention. (emphasis added). Other features are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 6-7 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 4, but also because of additional features they recite. Claim 6, for example, recites, *inter alia*, “conveying means organizing said carries into ranks of a plurality of carriers,” which is not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 4, 6 and 7 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when each respective claim is interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 4, 6 and 7 be passed to issue.

C. Claims 8 and 9

Independent claim 8 recites a combination of features directed to a system for assembling prescription orders. As recited by claim 8, the system comprises, *inter alia*, “a multiplicity of carriers each having the capability of receiving a multiplicity of prescription bottles in scheduled locations.” The system also comprises “means to assemble a plurality of carriers at said order and packing station, and packing means at said order and consolidation station to remove the prescription bottles of said order from the scheduled locations in the carriers of said plurality and pack the bottles of said order in a container.”

This combination of features of independent claim 8, when interpreted as a whole, is submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art. Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited above. Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 8, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest, in addition, at least a prescription dispensing system having “a multiplicity of carriers each having the capability of receiving a multiplicity of prescription bottles in scheduled locations.” (emphasis added). In this regard, and as noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest “a multiplicity of carriers each having the capability of receiving a multiplicity of prescription bottles in schedules locations” as recited in the claimed invention, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such carriers are disclosed. Other features are also clearly absent from

a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claim 9 is not only allowable by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 8, but also because of additional features it recites. Claim 9 recites, *inter alia*, “means to print literature for said order.” Neither Charhut or Bailer disclose one or more printers 31 integrated with the system, as shown in Figure 2 of U.S. 5,771,657.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 8 and 9 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when each respective claim is interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 8 and 9 be passed to issue.

D. Claims 10 and 11

Independent claim 10 recites a combination of features directed to a system for sorting prescriptions by prescription order. As recited by claim 10, the system comprises, *inter alia*, “a carrier having the capability of receiving a multiplicity of prescription bottles in assigned locations.” The system also comprises “means responsive to a prescription of an order to provide a prescription bottle filled with pharmaceuticals in accordance with said prescription in an assigned location in said carrier.” Finally, the system comprises “an order consolidation and packing station comprising means to receive said carrier and remove said prescription bottle from said assigned location in said carrier and pack said prescription bottle in a container corresponding to said order.”

This combination of features of independent claim 10, when interpreted as a whole, is submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art. Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited above. Without conceding that Charhut or Baler discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 10, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest at least the feature of “a carrier having the capability of receiving a multiplicity of prescription bottles in assigned locations.” (emphasis added). In this regard, and as noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Baler teach or suggest “a carrier having the capability of receiving a multiplicity of prescription

bottle in assigned locations” as recited in the claimed invention, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such carriers are disclosed. Other features are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claim 11 is not only allowable by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 10, but also because of additional features it recites. Claim 11 recites, *inter alia*, “means to print literature corresponding to said order.” As noted above, neither Charhut or Bailer disclose one or more printers 31 integrated with the system, as shown in Figure 2 of U.S. 5,771,657.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 10 and 11 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when each respective claim is interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 10 and 11 be passed to issue.

E. Claims 12-15

Independent claim 12 recites a combination of features directed to method of sorting prescription bottles by prescription order. As recited in claim 12, the method comprises the step of, *inter alia*, “placing the prescription bottles of each order in scheduled locations in carriers, each carrier having a multiplicity of locations to receive prescription bottles.” The method also comprises the step of “removing the prescription bottles from the scheduled locations in said carriers in accordance with said record and placing the prescription bottles of each order in a separate container.” In addition, the method comprises the steps of “identifying prescription bottles corresponding to each order,” and “maintaining a record for each order of the identification of the carriers containing the prescription bottles of each order and the scheduled location in said carriers of each prescription bottle of each order.” This combination of features of independent claim 12, when interpreted as a whole, is submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of steps recited above. Without conceding that Charhut or Baler discloses or suggests any of the steps recited in claim 12,

both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest at least the step of “placing the prescription bottles of each order in scheduled locations in carriers, each carrier having a multiplicity of locations to receive prescription bottles,” as recited in the claimed invention. (emphasis added). In fact, neither reference discloses *anything* with regard to carriers containing prescription bottles. In this regard, and as noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest the step of “placing the prescription bottles of each order in scheduled locations in carriers, each carrier having a multiplicity of locations to receive prescription bottles” as recited in the claimed invention, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such step and/or carriers are disclosed. Other features are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 13-15 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 12, but also because of additional features they recite. Claims 14 and 15 recite, *inter alia*, the step of filling the prescription bottles after the bottles have been placed in scheduled locations in the carrier, which is not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 12-15 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when each respective claim is interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 12-15 be passed to issue.

F. Independent Claim 16

Independent claim 16 recites a combination of features directed to an automatic prescription filling and dispensing system. As recited by claim 16, the system comprises, *inter alia*, “at least one order consolidation and packing (OCP) station.” The OCP station “presents a shipping container for each prescription order,” and “inserts at least one bottle for each prescription order into the shipping container and inserts, separately from the at least one bottle inserted into the shipping container a

corresponding literature pack for each prescription order into the shipping container corresponding to the prescription order.” This combination of features of independent claim 16, when interpreted as a whole and in combination with the other limitations recited in claim 16, is submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited above. Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 16, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest, in addition, at least the feature of any form a printer for printing a customized literature pack, or that the literature pack is inserted separately from a bottle for a prescription order. As noted above, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest, in addition, at least the feature of printing a literature pack **corresponding** to a prescription order, or the feature of a literature pack being inserted separately from a bottle for a prescription order. In fact, neither reference discloses *anything* with regard to a literature pack being associated with a prescription order. In this regard, Bailer discloses a generic literature package being inserted into a pocket or holder (see, e.g., col. 4, lines 21-23), and has nothing to do with printing literature packages, let alone printing literature packages corresponding to a prescription order, as recited in the claimed invention. Other features are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in claim 16 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when claim 16 is interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claim 16 be passed to issue.

G. Claims 30, 31 and 36-43

Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited in claim 30. Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 30, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest, in addition, a prescription dispensing system having “a plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations,” as recited in the claimed invention. (emphasis added). In fact, neither reference

discloses *anything* with regard to carriers containing prescription bottles. In this regard, and as noted above, the Examiner's assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest "a plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations" as recited in the claimed invention, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such step and carriers are disclosed.

In addition, neither Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest, in addition, at least the feature of "loading at least one of the plurality of bottles into at least one shipping container corresponding to at least one of the prescription orders" in combination with other claimed limitations. Charhut merely places a bin on a conveyor 24a, 24b, 24c. (col. 13:50-57). Charhut does not dispose of any items in a shipping container, let alone a shipping container corresponding to a prescription order. Bailer, as noted above, places a generic literature package into a pocket or holder (see, e.g., col. 4, lines 21-23), and does not perform the step of "determining which of the plurality of bottles goes into the at least one shipping container corresponding to the at least one of the prescription orders from the scheduled locations of the plurality of bottles in said plurality of carriers," as recited in the claimed invention. Other features are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

With regard to dependent claim 31, neither Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest inserting "into the shipping container corresponding to the at least one of the prescription orders a literature pack corresponding to the at least one of the prescription orders," particularly in combination with other claimed limitations as discussed with regard to claim 30. It is therefore respectfully submitted that dependent claim 31 is allowable over the art of record.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 36-43 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 30, but also because of additional features they recite. Claim 38, for example, recites a literature pack corresponding to a prescription order which, as previously discussed, is neither taught nor suggested by either Charhut or Bailer. Claim 40 recites

that the transport devices organize the bottle carriers into “ranks of carriers.” Applicants find nothing in either reference with regard to a dispensing machine receiving “ranks of carriers,” particularly when taken in combination with the limitations recited in claim 30. Claim 38 and 41 recite additional details with regard to the shipping container. Applicants find nothing in either reference that teaches or suggests the features of the claimed invention recited in claims 38 and 41.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 30, 31 and 36-43 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when each respective claim is interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 30 , 31 and 36-43 be passed to issue.

H. Claims 44 and 49-57

Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited in claim 44. Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 44, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest, in addition, a prescription dispensing system having “[a]t least one carrier, each having receptacles to receive at least one bottle in scheduled locations,” as recited in the claimed invention. (emphasis added). In fact, neither reference discloses *anything* with regard to carriers containing prescription bottles. In this regard, and as noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest “[a]t least one carrier, each having receptacles to receive at least one bottle in scheduled locations,” as recited in the claimed invention, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such step and carriers are disclosed.

In addition, neither Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest, in addition, at least the feature of “at least one dispensing machine responsive to at least one prescription order comprising at least one prescription to fill the at least one bottles in any of said at least one carrier with pharmaceuticals in accordance with the at least one prescription order,” or the feature of “at least one order consolidation and packing (OCP) station at which the at least one bottle is unloaded from said at

least one carrier and placed in a shipping container corresponding to the at least one prescription order,” each as recited in the claimed invention. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

With respect to the rejected dependent claims 49-57, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 49-57 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 44, but also because of additional features they recite. Claim 49 recites, for example, “printing a literature pack for the at least one prescription order,” which is not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer. Claim 52 also concerns a “literature pack.”

Claim 51, for example, recites a “shipping container corresponding to the at least one prescription order,” which is not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer. Claim 55 also recites a “shipping container.”

Claim 54, for example, recites “ranks of carriers,” which is not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer.

Further, with regard to claim 57, which recites “a radio frequency identification tag,” the Examiner states that “radio tags are well known in the art as they are marketed by Texas Instruments, Inc. and disclosed in applicant’s issued patents, such as pat no. 5660305.” However, the mere fact that radio tags are currently marketed is irrelevant. Further, even if radio tags are well known, that fact alone is irrelevant to the claimed invention of an automatic prescription filling system. Finally, in their response to the Office Action dated November 5, 2001, Applicants have indicated that U.S. 5,660,305 is not prior art with respect to the present application since the ‘305 patent and the present application were commonly owned at the time of the present invention. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide a prior art reference to support the Examiner’s position with regard to radio frequency identification tags pursuant to MPEP §2144.03, or an affidavit under 37 C.F.R. §1.104 (d)(2). In the absence of either, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 57.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 44 and 49-57 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when these claims are interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 44 and 49-57 be passed to issue.

I. Claims 58, 59 and 65-74

Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited in claim 59. Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 59, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest, in addition, a prescription dispensing system having “[a] plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations,” as recited in the claimed invention. (emphasis added). In fact, neither reference discloses *anything* with regard to carriers containing prescription bottles. In this regard, and as noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest “[a] plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations,” as recited in the claimed invention, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such step and carriers are disclosed.

In addition, and without conceding that Charhut or Bailer disclose or suggest any of the elements recited in claim 58, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest, in addition, at least the feature of “at least one order consolidation and packing (OCP) station that receives said plurality of carriers from said at least one dispensing machine and presents shipping containers to be filled.” Also, neither reference teaches or suggested anything with regard to literature packs, which is also recited in claim 58. Other features are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 59 and 65-74 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 58, but also because of additional features they recite. Claims 59, 68 and 72, for example, recite that an order consolidation and packing station “determines which of the at least one bottle is inserted in each respective shipping container from the scheduled locations of the plurality of bottles in at least one of said plurality of carriers,” which is not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer. Claims 65 recites “printing a literature pack for

the prescription order, and claim 66 recites printing a “literature pack corresponding to the prescription order,” which is not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer. Claim 71, for example, recites “ranks of carriers,” which is not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer.

Further, with regard to claim 74, which recites “a radio frequency identification tag,” the Examiner states that “radio tags are well known in the art as they are marketed by Texas Instruments, Inc.” However, the mere fact that radio tags are currently marketed is irrelevant. Further, even if radio tags are well known, that fact alone is irrelevant to the claimed invention of an automatic prescription filling system. Finally, in their response to the Office Action dated November 5, 2001, Applicants have indicated that U.S. 5,660,305 is not prior art with respect to the present application since the ‘305 patent and the present application were commonly owned at the time of the present invention. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide a prior art reference to support the Examiner’s position with regard to radio frequency identification tags pursuant to MPEP §2144.03, or an affidavit under 37 C.F.R. §1.104 (d)(2). In the absence of either, Applicants request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 74.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 58, 59 and 65-74 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when these claims are interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 58, 59 and 65-74 be passed to issue.

J. Claims 75, 76 and 81-90

Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 75 both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest, in addition, at least the feature of “a plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations,” as recited in the claimed invention. (emphasis added). In this regard, and as noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest “a plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations” as recited in the claimed invention, he is

requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such carriers are disclosed.

In addition, both Charhut and Bailer absolutely fail to teach or suggest at least the feature of “at least one order consolidation and packing (OCP) station that receives said plurality of carriers from said at least one dispensing machine and presents shipping containers to be filled.” Other features are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 76 and 81-90 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 75, but also because of additional features they recite. Claim 76 recites that a “literature pack corresponding to the prescription order” is inserted into the shipping container. Claims 81, 82, and 84, for example, recite also recite a “literature pack” and details pertaining thereto, which are not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer. Claim 87, for example, recites “ranks of carriers,” which is not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer.

Further, with regard to claim 90, which recites “a radio frequency identification tag,” the Examiner states that radio tags are well known in the art as they are marketed by Texas Instruments, Inc.” However, the mere fact that radio tags are currently marketed is irrelevant. Further, even if radio tags are well known, that fact alone is irrelevant to the claimed invention of an automatic prescription filling system. Finally, in their response to the Office Action dated November 5, 2001, Applicants have indicated that U.S. 5,660,305 is not prior art with respect to the present application since the ‘305 patent and the present application were commonly owned at the time of the present invention. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide a prior art reference to support the Examiner’s position with regard to radio frequency identification tags pursuant to MPEP §2144.03, or an affidavit under 37 C.F.R. §1.104 (d)(2). In the absence of either, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 90.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 75, 76 and 81-90 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when these claims are

interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 75, 76 and 81-90 be passed to issue.

K. Claims 91-95

Independent claim 91 recites , inter alia, the step of “printing a literature pack customized to each of the at least one prescription order.” (emphasis added). As noted above, neither reference discloses *anything* with regard to a literature pack being associated with a bottle of a prescription order. In particular, Bailer merely discloses a generic literature package being inserted into a pocket or holder (see, e.g., col. 4, lines 21-23), and has nothing to do with printing literature packages, let alone printing customized literature packages, as recited in the claimed invention. Other features are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer.

Claim 91 also recites, inter alia, the step of “inserting the literature pack corresponding to each of the at least one prescription order, separate from inserting the at least one bottle corresponding to each of the at least one prescription order into the shipping container corresponding to the at least one prescription order, into the shipping container corresponding to the respective at least one prescription order.” Other features are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several features are missing, the combination of features are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 92-95 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 91, but also because of additional features they recite. Claim 95, for example, recites additional details pertaining to the shipping container and literature pack, which are not taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 91-95 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when these claims are interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 91-95 be passed to issue.

L. Claims 96-103

Independent claim 96 recites, inter alia, the step of “providing a plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations.” (emphasis added). In this regard, and as noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest the step of “providing a plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations” and the step of “loading at least one of the plurality of bottles and a corresponding literature pack into a shipping container corresponding to each of the at least one prescription order as determined by the scheduled locations of the plurality of bottles,” each as recited in claim 96, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such steps are disclosed.

Claim 96 also recites, inter alia, the step of “loading at least one of the plurality of bottles and a corresponding literature pack into a shipping container corresponding to each of the at least one prescription order as determined by the scheduled locations of the plurality of bottles.” Other steps recited in claim 96 are also clearly absent from a cursory inspection of Charhut and Bailer. Finally, since several steps are missing, the combination of steps are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 97-103 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 96, but also because of additional features they recite. Claim 99, for example, recites, inter alia, the step of “organizing the plurality of carriers into ranks of carriers.” Applicants find nothing in either reference with regard to organizing a plurality of carriers into ranks of carriers, particularly when taken in combination with the other limitations recited in the claim. Claim 100, for example, recites additional details pertaining to the shipping container and the literature pack, neither of which are taught or suggested by either Charhut or Bailer.

Further, with regard to claim 103, which recites “a radio frequency identification tag,” the Examiner states that “radio tags are well known in the art as they are marketed by Texas

Instruments, Inc. and disclosed in applicant's issued patents, such as Pat. No. 5,660,305." However, the mere fact that radio tags are currently marketed is irrelevant. Further, even if radio tags are well known, that fact alone is irrelevant to the claimed invention of an automatic prescription filling system. Finally, in their response to the Office Action dated November 5, 2001, Applicants have indicated that U.S. 5,660,305 is not prior art with respect to the present application since the '305 patent and the present application were commonly owned at the time of the present invention. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide a prior art reference to support the Examiner's position with regard to radio frequency identification tags pursuant to MPEP §2144.03, or an affidavit under 37 C.F.R. §1.104 (d)(2). In the absence of either, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 103.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 96-103 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when these claims are interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 96-103 be passed to issue.

M. Claims 104-109

Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 104, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest, in addition, at least the step of "providing a plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations." (emphasis added). In this regard, and as noted above, the Examiner's assertion that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest the step of "providing a plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations" as recited in the claimed invention, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such carriers are disclosed.

Claim 104 also recites, inter alia, the step of "packing the at least one of the plurality of bottles corresponding to the prescription order in a shipping container corresponding to the prescription order." Nothing in either Charhut or bailer teaches or suggests "shipping containers corresponding to

shipping orders,” as recited in the claimed invention. Finally, since several elements are missing, the combination of elements are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 105-109 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 104, but also because of additional features they recite. Claim 105, for example, recites the step of “printing a literature pack for the prescription order.” As previously noted, Applicants find nothing in either reference with regard to printing a literature pack for a prescription order.

Further, with regard to claim 109, which recites “a radio frequency identification tag,” the Examiner states that “radio tags are well known in the art as they are marketed by Texas Instruments, Inc. and disclosed in applicants’ issued patents, such as, Pat. No. 5,660,305.” However, the mere fact that radio tags are currently marketed is irrelevant. Further, even if radio tags are well known, that fact alone is irrelevant to the claimed invention of an automatic prescription filling system. Finally, in their response to the Office Action dated November 5, 2001, Applicants have indicated that U.S. 5,660,305 is not prior art with respect to the present application since the ‘305 patent and the present application were commonly owned at the time of the present invention. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide a prior art reference to support the Examiner’s position with regard to radio frequency identification tags pursuant to MPEP §2144.03, or an affidavit under 37 C.F.R. §1.104 (d)(2). In the absence of either, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 109.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 104-109 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when these claims are interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 104-109 be passed to issue.

N. Claims 110-113

Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of steps recited in claim 110. Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the steps recited in claim 110, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest at least the step of “receiving a plurality of bottles, each having an assigned location in a bottle carrier corresponding to a prescription order

comprising at least one prescription.” (emphasis added). In this regard, and as noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest the step of “the step of “receiving a plurality of bottles, each having an assigned location in a bottle carrier corresponding to a prescription order comprising at least one prescription,” as recited in the claimed invention, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such carriers are disclosed.

In addition, neither reference teaches or suggests at least the step of “packing at least one of the plurality of bottles in a shipping container corresponding to the prescription order.” Finally, since several steps are missing, the combination of steps are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 111-113 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 110, but also because of additional features they recite. For example, claim 111 recites the step “printing a literature pack corresponding to the prescription order.” As previously noted, Applicants find nothing in either reference with regard to a printing a literature pack for a prescription order.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 110-113 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when these claims are interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 110-113 be passed to issue.

O. Claims 114-115 and 121-123

Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited in claim 114. Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 114, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest at least “a plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations.” (emphasis added). As noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest, for example, “a plurality

of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in scheduled locations,” as recited in the claimed invention, he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such carriers are disclosed.

In addition, neither reference teaches or suggests “at least one dispensing machine responsive to said computer that automatically counts and dispenses the type and quantity of pharmaceuticals into the plurality of bottles in accordance with the prescription orders in the scheduled locations of the corresponding plurality of carriers.” Finally, since several elements are missing, the combination of elements are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 115 and 121-123 are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 114, but also because of additional features they recite. Claim 115, for example, recites that “the plurality of bottles are unloaded from said plurality of carriers and placed in shipping containers corresponding to the prescription orders.” Applicants find nothing in either reference with regard to unloading bottles from carriers, or placing such unloaded bottles into shipping containers.

Further, with regard to claim 123, which recites “a radio frequency identification tag,” the Examiner states that “radio tags are well known in the art as they are marketed by Texas Instruments, Inc. and disclosed in Applicant’s issued patents, such as Patent No. 5,660,305.” However, the mere fact that radio tags are currently marketed is irrelevant. Further, even if radio tags are well known, that fact alone is irrelevant to the claimed invention of an automatic prescription filling system. Finally, in their response to the Office Action dated November 5, 2001, Applicants have indicated that U.S. 5,660,305 is not prior art with respect to the present application since the ‘305 patent and the present application were commonly owned at the time of the present invention. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide a prior art reference to support the Examiner’s position with regard to radio frequency identification tags pursuant to MPEP §2144.03, or an affidavit under 37 C.F.R. §1.104 (d)(2). In the absence of either, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claim 123.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 114, 115 and 121-123 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when these

claims are interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 114, 115 and 121-123 be passed to issue.

P. Claims 124-129

Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited in claim 124. Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements recited in claim 124, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest dispensing “at least one prescription into one or more bottles positioned in one or more carriers, each carrier having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles,” as recited in the claimed invention. (emphasis added). As noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest, for example, “at least one prescription into one or more bottles positioned in one or more carriers, each carrier having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles,” he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such carriers are disclosed. Since several elements are missing, the combination of elements are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

With respect to the rejected dependent claims 125-129, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are not only allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 124, but also because of additional features they recite. Claim 127, for example, recites the step of “printing a literature pack corresponding to the prescription order.” Applicants find nothing in either reference with regard to printing literature packs corresponding to the prescription order.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 124-129 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when these claims are interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicants request that claims 124-129 be passed to issue.

Q. Claims 130-134

Neither Charhut or Bailer teaches or suggests at least the combination of elements recited in claim 130. Without conceding that Charhut or Bailer discloses or suggests any of the elements

recited in claim 130, both references absolutely fail to teach or suggest dispensing “at least one prescription into one or more bottles positioned in one or more carriers, each carrier having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles,” as recited in the claimed invention. (emphasis added). As noted above, the Examiner’s assertion that that the carriers recited in the claimed invention correspond to the conveyors 24a, 24b, and 24c disclosed in Charhut cannot possibly be correct. If the Examiner believes either Charhut or Bailer teach or suggest, for example, dispensing “at least one prescription into one or more bottles positioned in one or more carriers, each carrier having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles,” he is requested to specify, by column and line number and/or Figure number, where such carriers are disclosed. Since several elements are missing, the combination of elements are also submitted to patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Accordingly, and for at least this reason, Applicants submit that the combination of features recited in each of claims 130-134 is patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner when these claims are interpreted as a whole. Accordingly, Applicant requests that claims 130-134 be passed to issue.

Finally, claims 24, 37, 51, 68, 86, 93, 124 and 130 have been amended to recite a combination of features to further distinguish over the prior art. Newly added claims 135-140 also recite a combination of features that clearly distinguish over the prior art.

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that, as described above, the cited prior art does not show or suggest the combination of features recited in the claims. Applicants do not concede that the cited prior art shows any of the elements recited in the claims. However, Applicants have provided specific examples of elements in the claims that are clearly not present in the cited prior art.

Applicants strongly emphasize that one reviewing the prosecution history should not interpret any of the examples Applicants have described herein in connection with distinguishing over the prior art as limiting to those specific features in isolation. Rather, Applicants assert that it is the combination of elements recited in each of the claims, when each claim is interpreted as a whole, that is patentable. Applicants have emphasized certain features in the claims as clearly not present in the claims, as discussed above. However, Applicants do not concede that other features in the claims are also not missing in the prior art. Rather, for the sake of simplicity, Applicants are providing examples of why each of the claims described above are distinguishable over the cited prior art.

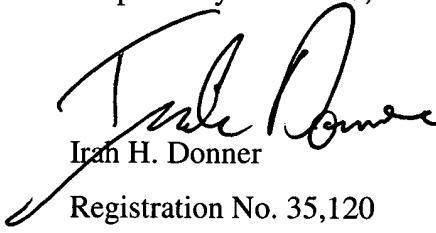
For all the reasons advanced above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections must be withdrawn. Consequently, issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Authorization

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Amendment, or credit any overpayment to deposit account no. 08-0219.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to deposit account no. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,



Iran H. Donner
Registration No. 35,120



Gregory S. Discher
Registration No. 42,488

Date: 07/29/02

HALE AND DORR LLP
1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
(202) 942-8400

Appendix A**(Marked up version of amended claims and newly added claims)**

24. (Amended). The automatic prescription filling and packing system as recited in claim 23 wherein said label applicator affixes the prescription label to each of the at least one bottle prior to [insertion of the at least one bottle into the shipping container] dispensing pharmaceuticals therein.

37. (Amended). The prescription dispensing and packing system as recited in claim 36 further comprising a label applicator that affixes the prescription label on each of the at least one of the plurality of bottles in accordance with each of the at least one of the prescription orders prior to dispensing pharmaceuticals into the bottles.

51. (Amended). The system as recited in claim 50 wherein said label applicator affixes the prescription label on each of the at least one bottle prior to [insertion of the at least one bottle into the shipping container corresponding to the at least one prescription] filling each of the at least one bottle with pharmaceuticals.

68. (Amended). The prescription dispensing and packing system as recited in claim 67 wherein said label applicator affixes one of the prescription labels on each of the at least one of the plurality of bottles prior to insertion of the at least one of the plurality of bottles into the [shipping container corresponding to the prescription order] carriers.

86. (Amended). The prescription dispensing and packing system as recited in claim 83 wherein said label applicator affixes the prescription label to each of the at least one of the plurality of bottles prior to insertion of the at least one of the plurality of bottles into [the shipping container corresponding to the prescription order] at least one of said plurality of carriers.

93. (Amended). The method as recited in claim 92 wherein each prescription label is applied prior to [said inserting the at least one bottle step] dispensing.

124. (Amended). A method of operating a pharmaceutical dispensing line, comprising the steps of:

in a single run, dispensing [into bottles] different quantities of different pharmaceuticals in accordance with at least one prescription order comprising at least one prescription into one or more bottles positioned in one or more carriers, each carrier having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles; and

affixing labels to the bottles that identify the quantity and type of pharmaceuticals contained in each bottle, thereby providing individual prescription orders for shipping to customers.

130. (Amended). A method of operating a pharmaceutical dispensing line, comprising the steps of:

dispensing [into bottles], in a single run, different quantities of different pharmaceuticals in accordance with prescription orders comprising at least one prescription into one or more bottles positioned in one or more carriers, each carrier having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles;

affixing automatically to each of the bottles labels that identify the quantity and type of pharmaceuticals contained in each of the bottles; and

packaging the bottles corresponding to prescription orders in containers corresponding to the respective prescription orders, thereby providing individual prescription orders for shipping to customers.

133. (Amended). The method as recited in claim 130 wherein said affixing step [further] occurs prior to dispensing and comprises the step of printing a respective individual label for each of the bottles.

135. (NEW). A method of operating a pharmaceutical dispensing line, comprising the steps of:

in a single run, dispensing different quantities of different pharmaceuticals in accordance with at least one prescription order comprising at least one prescription; and affixing labels, prior to said dispensing step, to the bottles that identify the quantity and type of pharmaceuticals contained in each bottle, thereby providing individual prescription orders for shipping to customers.

136. (NEW). A prescription dispensing and packing system comprising:
a carrier with multiple bottles for dispensing pharmaceuticals;
a computer that receives prescription orders; and
at least one dispensing machine responsive to said computer that automatically counts and dispenses the type and quantity of pharmaceuticals into the multiple bottles in accordance with the prescription orders.

137. (NEW). An automatic prescription filling and packing system comprising:
at least one dispensing machine that automatically counts and dispenses pharmaceuticals into a carrier with multiple bottles;
at least one printer for printing literature packs customized to a prescription order associated with each of the multiple bottles; and
at least one order consolidation and packing (OCP) station that presents a shipping container for each prescription order and inserts at least one bottle for each prescription order into the shipping container and inserts, separately from the at least one bottle inserted into the shipping container, a corresponding literature pack for each prescription order into the shipping container corresponding to the prescription order.

138. (NEW). A prescription dispensing and packing system comprising:
a carrier with multiple bottles for dispensing pharmaceuticals;
a computer that receives prescription orders; and
at least one dispensing machine responsive to said computer that automatically counts
and simultaneously dispenses the type and quantity of pharmaceuticals into at least
two of the multiple bottles in accordance with the prescription orders.

139. (NEW). An automatic prescription filling and packing system comprising:
at least one dispensing machine that automatically counts and simultaneously dispenses
pharmaceuticals into at least two bottles positioned within a carrier;
at least one printer for printing literature packs customized to a prescription order
associated with each of the at least two bottles; and
at least one order consolidation and packing (OCP) station that presents a shipping
container for each prescription order and inserts at least one bottle for each
prescription order into the shipping container and inserts, separately from the at least
one bottle inserted into the shipping container, a corresponding literature pack for
each prescription order into the shipping container corresponding to the prescription
order.

140. (NEW). A prescription dispensing and packing system comprising:
a plurality of carriers, each having receptacles to receive a plurality of bottles in
scheduled locations;
a computer that receives prescription orders comprising at least one prescription;
a loading station that loads the plurality of bottles in the scheduled locations
corresponding to the prescription orders in at least one of said plurality of carriers;
at least two dispensing machines that count and simultaneously dispense pharmaceuticals
into the plurality of bottles;
at least one transport device that transports said plurality of carriers with the plurality of
bottles through said at least two dispensing machines, said at least two dispensing
machines dispensing the pharmaceuticals of the prescription orders received by said

computer into the plurality of bottles in said plurality of carriers in accordance with the scheduled locations of the plurality of bottles in said plurality of carriers; and at least one order consolidation and packing (OCP) station that receives said plurality of carriers from said at least two dispensing machines and presents shipping containers to be filled, each shipping container corresponding to at least one of the prescription orders, said at least one OCP station unloading the plurality of bottles from said plurality of carriers and loading at least one of the plurality of bottles into at least one shipping container corresponding to at least one of the prescription orders, said at least one OCP station determining which of the plurality of bottles goes into the at least one shipping container corresponding to the at least one of the prescription orders from the scheduled location of the plurality of bottles in said plurality of carriers.